

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A dielectric composition comprising a mixture of :

a ceramic composition containing $\text{Ba}_a\text{RE}_b\text{Ti}_c\text{O}_3$, wherein RE represents a rare earth element, with 0.05 a 0.25, 0.525 b 0.70, 0.85 c 1.0, and $2a + 3b + 4c = 6$, and free from lead and bismuth,

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a glass composition comprising SiO_2 , a bivalent metal oxide chosen from the group consisting of MgO and ZnO and at least 10% greater than 10% to about 25% by weight with respect to the glass composition of a further metal oxide consisting of Li_2O , said glass composition substantially free from boron, and

a metal oxide which is different from the bivalent metal oxide present in the glass composition

~~said dielectric composition comprising greater than 10% to about 25% Li_2O by weight.~~

2. (previously amended) A dielectric composition as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the metal oxide in the dielectric composition is an oxide of a metal chosen from the group consisting of magnesium, zinc, copper, manganese, cobalt, iron, nickel, erbium, holmium, indium, dysprosium, tungsten and yttrium.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) A dielectric composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the glass composition essentially consists of 50-80% by weight of SiO_2 and 5-25% by weight of MgO .

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. (previously amended) A dielectric composition as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the glass composition is present in an amount of 3 to less than about 5% by weight with respect to the ceramic composition.

8-14. (canceled)